December 2023

# Hollenbach Headlines

Monthly Athletic NewsLetter



Gabby Jones '24 enters the pool for a backstroke race.

## The Gift of Opportunity

Capturing new records for the swim team



## Letter from the Athletic Director: Mike Kruger

**December brings** a feeling of joy to Perkiomen's campus. Advisory groups decorate their doors for the holidays, our teams are immersed in early season competition, and our student-athletes are excited to have a little bit of down time to relax with their families and celebrate the holidays. Perkiomen wishes vou a joyful holiday season and a happy New Year!

Each year, Board members support a specific area of need on campus through the Trustee Project Fund. In 2022, members voted for the Fund to be allocated towards the purchase and installation of a swim timing system for the Huttel Natatorium.

Head Coach Erin Davidson-Kellogg says, "This is definitely the best gift we have received for our swimming program!"

Timing systems are the standard for swimming programs and this equipment is helping to put Perkiomen on par with other competitive programs, strengthening our ability to recruit quality athletes. The new timing system includes touch pads, a timer, and a scoreboard, offering many benefits to both the boys and girls teams.

Thanks to the Board's investment in the team by giving our athletes exposure to this professional equipment, our swimmers have also received the gift of opportunity to improve their athletic performances. Additionally, the timing system enhances the spectator experience and builds team spirit as it displays reliable, real-time results. Plus, the automation of this process ensures integrity of pool records and allows coaches to shift their focuses to coaching the swimmers before, during, and after races.

Davidson-Kellogg says, "Coach Rodgers (assistant coach) and I have been overwhelmed by the support from the students and faculty who attend our meets and assist us in running events. One day, we hope to host largescale competitions on campus! We are so grateful for everyone who has rallied around the swim program."



## News



A look back at 2023 in Panthers Athletics



# Let's get excited for what is to come in 2024

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## Student Spotlight:

Perkiokmen School Student-Athletes share the best part of their Perkiomen School Athletics experiences and their favorite moments of the holiday season.



## Tommy Saeger '24: Swimming

On the swim team, I enjoy competing for my school and developing strong bonds with my teammates.

My favorite Perkiomen holiday tradition is attending Vespers with the baseball team. I have gone each year since 6th grade, and it has grown my appreciation for the holiday season.



## Pearl Bixler '25: Girls' Prep Basketball

I love that basketball is a fast-paced game where I can quickly see where my skills are improving. Being able to play alongside my teammates makes it even better!

The holiday season is a great time to celebrate and give back to others!

#### Alice Peeler '24: Winter Track

Participating in winter track at Perk gives me a strong sense of community while also keeping me active. I have made many longlasting friendships on the team and learned valuable lessons about perseverance and commitment.

My favorite part of the holiday season is seeing all of the beautiful lights and decorations everywhere on campus!



#### KJ Cochran '25: Boys' National Basketball

As a first-year student at Perkiomen, I am really grateful for the sense of brotherhood on my team. While we all come from different experiences and backgrounds, we've come together to create an awesome team culture.

I've always loved the holidays, but this time of year at Perkiomen is especially cool because my teammates are teaching me about the various ways they celebrate their family holidays!